



NEWS RELEASE

**NELSON P. COHEN
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
DISTRICT OF ALASKA**

Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse • 222 W. 7th Avenue • Room 253 • Anchorage, AK 99513-7567 • (907) 271-5071

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**WASHINGTON WOMAN SENTENCED IN FEDERAL COURT
FOR CONSPIRACY IN RELATION TO DRUG-TRAFFICKING**

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Nelson P. Cohen announced today, November 29, 2007, that Sinoun Moth, a resident of Renton, Washington, was sentenced in federal court in Anchorage to 30 months in prison for her conviction of conspiracy in relation to controlled substance trafficking.

United States District Court Judge Timothy M. Burgess imposed the sentence on Moth, age 22, of 1089 Lake Washington Blvd., North, Unit A406, Renton, Washington. The defendant admitted to being involved in a conspiracy to distribute ecstasy, and Judge Burgess found sufficient evidence to determine that the conspiracy also involved the distribution of cocaine.

According to information presented to the court by Special Assistant United States Attorney Erin White, Moth lived with Nicholas Blackwell, who was the leader of a drug conspiracy operated from the Seattle area. While located in Seattle, Blackwell tasked Moth and co-defendants Lamar Facine, Chase Walters and Jeffrey Sanders with distributing both ecstasy and cocaine here in Anchorage. Moth distributed ecstasy pills herself and also allowed other members of the conspiracy to deposit proceeds from drug transactions into her bank account. During the course of this investigation, law enforcement seized approximately 1800 ecstasy pills and over 2.5 kilograms of cocaine powder. Earlier this month, Blackwell received a sentence of 210 months, and Sanders received a sentence of 70 months. Walters is pending sentencing, and Facine is pending trial.

Prior to imposing sentence, Judge Burgess noted the importance of deterring Moth and other potential defendants from criminal conduct in the future, as well as the need to protect the public from the dangers involved in drug distribution. Judge Burgess balanced the seriousness of Moth's crimes with information provided to the Court indicating that Moth had no prior criminal history.

Mr. Cohen commended the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Safe Streets Task Force, which is staffed with Anchorage police officers and FBI agents, for the investigation leading to the successful prosecution of Sanders. SAUSA White is one of two prosecutors in the U.S. Attorney's Office who are funded by the Municipality of Anchorage for the purpose of prosecuting gang-related and violent crime cases.

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